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# PLAINTIFF'S NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO AMEND THIRD AMENDED COMPLAINT

To The Honorable Court, All Parties, and Their Attorneys of Record:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff Todd Hill, proceeding in pro per, hereby moves the Court for leave to amend the Third Amended Complaint ("TAC") pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 15(a) to add the State Bar of California and the Board of Directors of the Peoples College of Law (PCL) as defendants in this action.

### **INTRODUCTION**

This motion seeks leave to amend the TAC to include the State Bar of California and the Board of Directors of Peoples College of Law (PCL) as additional defendants. The amendment is warranted based on their roles and actions connected to the claims outlined in the TAC, including recent developments that underscore their involvement.

#### STATEMENT OF FACTS

On or about August 13, 2024, Plaintiff Todd Hill submitted a government claim against the State Bar of California via email. This claim was formally rejected on September 3, 2024, as detailed in a letter from Jennifer Ko, Assistant General Counsel and Claims Officer for the State Bar of California. The letter stated that the State Bar had not received any prior government claims from Plaintiff, despite his assertions of a December 2022 submission.

The rejection letter, combined with the ongoing issues surrounding PCL and the State Bar's regulatory actions, necessitates the addition of both the State Bar of California and the Board of

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Directors of PCL as defendants. Their involvement in the alleged negligence, malfeasance, and breaches of duty is now clearly implicated.

### **LEGAL STANDARD**

Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 15(a), a party may amend its pleading with the court's leave, which should be "freely given when justice so requires." The Ninth Circuit advocates granting leave to amend with "extreme liberality," unless there is evidence of bad faith, undue delay, prejudice to the opposing party, or futility of the amendment. The Rule provides that the movant can file amendments freely up to 21 days from the date of filing. Plaintiff asserts no defendant has timely filed a response.

### **ARGUMENT**

- No Undue Delay: Plaintiff is moving to amend promptly following the receipt of the claim rejection from the State Bar, demonstrating no undue delay. The motion is filed in a timely manner given the recent development.
- 2. **No Prejudice:** The proposed amendment will not prejudice the existing defendants. The new defendants are connected to the same set of facts and events already detailed in the TAC.
- 3. **Amendment Is Not Futile:** The amendment will allow Plaintiff to pursue viable claims against the State Bar of California and the Board of Directors of PCL based on newly acquired information and their direct involvement in the alleged misconduct.
- 4. **Timeliness and Good Faith Efforts:** The Plaintiff's motion to amend is timely and made in good faith. As per Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 15(a), Plaintiff had 21 days to amend the Third Amended Complaint without seeking the Court's permission. Notably, Defendant

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Spiro's motion to dismiss, filed on September 4, 2024, was submitted within this period<sup>1</sup>, reflecting an untimely and potentially bad faith effort to delay the proceedings. Plaintiff's recent email communication to opposing counsel and the Clerk of the Court, requesting a meet and confer regarding this untimely filing and other related issues, underscores the Plaintiff's commitment to addressing procedural concerns transparently and seeking resolution in a manner consistent with the rules.

- 5. No Prejudice and Judicial Efficiency: The proposed amendment does not cause undue delay or prejudice to the current defendants. The Plaintiff has acted promptly after receiving the rejection of the government claim and the untimely motion to dismiss. The request to amend the complaint aligns with the principles of judicial efficiency and fairness, ensuring that all relevant parties are included and that claims are fully adjudicated.
- 6. **Resolution of Procedural Issues:** The Plaintiff's communication regarding the untimely filing of a motion for dismissal suggests bad faith conduct by certain defendants, including the avoidance of opportunities to cure procedural issues. This further supports the need for a thorough examination of the claims and underscores the necessity of including the State Bar of California and the Board of Directors of PCL as defendants to address all pertinent aspects of the case comprehensively and the provision of leave to file this amended complaint.

### 7. Proactively Addresses Potential Criticisms:

Compliance with Government Claims Act: Plaintiff acknowledges that a government claim was submitted and rejected as of September 3, 2024. This motion is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Plaintiff and Mr. Spiro met pursuant to L.R. 7-3 on August 30, 2024. Mr. Spiro's filing of his motion on September 4, 2024 occurred within 5 days of the meeting which also appears to violate the 7 days required between meeting and filing.

1 timely as it follows the formal rejection and addresses the issues related to 2 compliance. 3 4 No Undue Delay in Allegations: The amendment directly correlates to the rejection 5 notice and the need to include the additional parties who have played a significant role 6 in the alleged actions. 7 8 Factual Specificity: The TAC is amended to provide greater detail regarding the 9 specific actions of the new defendants and their involvement in the racketeering and 10 other violations. 11 12 **CONCLUSION** 13 14 For the reasons stated above, Plaintiff Todd Hill respectfully requests that the Court grant leave to 15 amend the Third Amended Complaint to include the State Bar of California and the Board of 16 Directors of Peoples College of Law as defendants in this action as well as any additional relief the 17 Court deems just and appropriate. 18 19 Dated: September 6, 2024 20 21 Respectfully submitted, 22 23 24 25

Todd Hill

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Plaintiff, In Pro Per